



SC Department of Employment and Workforce

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DEW Announces Partnership Aimed at Enhancing How Workforce Professionals Serve Businesses

COLUMBIA—In an effort to better serve South Carolina's business community, the SC Department of Employment and Workforce (DEW) has teamed up with the Hayes Approach to train more than 200 workforce business services staff statewide.

The collaboration, announced this week, kicks off a year-long project that includes online and classroom sessions focused on topics such as business communications, business relationship development, human resources services, and knowledge of economic development.

"The goal of this program is to provide workforce professionals the knowledge and acumen to provide high-quality and effective services to our state's business community," said Michelle Paczynski, director of DEW's Business Services Division. "We are excited to begin our partnership with the Hayes Approach, who will implement a nationally-recognized curriculum that has been successful in numerous other states in improving relationships between workforce development professionals and local business communities."

Training sessions will culminate with the Business and Employer Services Certification Exam in mid-year 2012. Participants who pass the test will gain certification approved by the National Association of Workforce Development Professionals.

Training will be provided at no cost to Workforce Investment Area Administrators; DEW Area Directors; One-Stop operators; members of One-Stop business services teams including representatives from the Department of Social Services, the Department of Education/Adult Education, the South Carolina Technical College System, Vocational Rehabilitation, DEW; and representatives from the local economic development communities.

"We are very pleased to have this opportunity to serve the needs of our state through enhancing the collaborative relationships between workforce development professionals and the business communities throughout South Carolina," said Leslie G. Hayes, president of The Hayes Approach. "As members of the business community and South Carolinians, we appreciate the chance to impact directly our state's economic strength."

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